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ALL BYTE, NO BARK: MEET THE COMPUTER SERVICES STAFF
BY JAMES WIRRELL WITH CONTRIBUTIONS BY PAUL BIRCH, ALISON MERNER & KIM WISEMAN

It would be impossible to get through law school today without having had some contact with the Law Library's computer help staff. The Computer Services staff ensure that students, staff and faculty have access to computers and computing services. This involves overseeing the Law School's laptop program, servicing student computer needs at the Computer Help desk, managing the Law School network, providing academic technological support to faculty, handling student printing and print credits, and providing computer assistance to faculty and staff.

Paul Birch, Computer Services Librarian, has worked in law school libraries almost constantly since 1976. At the Law Library, Paul provides technological assistance to faculty who are integrating new technology into the classroom, assists faculty and staff with computer issues, is the Law School's webmaster, works at the reference desk and lastly, teaches in the first year Legal Research program. In his home state, he received both his M.A. in Library Science and his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin. He has been at the University of Richmond since 1989, and in his present role as Computer Services Librarian since 1991. (Or was it 1990? He doesn't remember for sure!) Away from work, he sometimes functions as a bluegrass mandolin player, and occasionally writes reviews and features for music magazines. He and his wife breed show-quality Doberman Pinschers and take care of numerous other obstreperous animals on their small farm in Powhatan.

Alison Merner is the Network Administrator of the Law School and Network Specialist for Information Services. She is responsible for maintaining the Law School’s servers and networking equipment. The Law School is Alison’s first job priority, but she is also part of the University of Richmond’s Information Services department which entails other networking functions around campus. She has a B.B.A. in Administrative Management from Tiffin University in Ohio and then went back later to become a Certified Novell Engineer. Alison moved to Richmond from Michigan almost five years ago. Not surprisingly, she is an avid Detroit Redwings fan (for those of you who don’t know, that is a hockey team—not just a brand of shoe)! Recently she has joined a pool league shooting 8ball and 9ball. She also volunteers with C.A.R.E (Cat Adoption and Rescue Effort) to find homes for cats. She enjoys spending time at home with her own cats Fred and Ginger.

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The Library's Computer Services Assistant, Kim Wiseman, has been a fixture in the Law School Library since March of 1998. She troubleshoots students' hardware and software problems, supervises the Computer Help desk, and oversees the computer lab. Prior to her arrival at the University of Richmond, she spent thirteen years at the College of William and Mary. After opting for the "fifteen year plan" to finish her undergraduate degree, she finally graduated in May 2000 with a B.B.A., cum laude, from Averett University. She has one son, Tommy, who will be twelve in March and two cats, Waffles (yes, there is a story behind his name) and Bandit. She and her family live in New Kent County.

Recent Librarian Publications


Moving Away....

The Law Library's Circulation/Reference librarian will be leaving us in February. James Wirrell has accepted a new position, also Circulation/Reference Librarian, at the McGeorge School of Law, University of Pacific, in Sacramento, California. McGeorge School of Law has approximately 600 full-time and 300 part-time students pursuing J.D. and LL.M. degrees. Its library contains about 450,000 volumes or volume equivalents. The law library's director, Faye Jones, was influential in James' decision to enter the field of law librarianship back in the mid-1990's.

James looks forward to returning to the West Coast and being closer to family, the Pacific Ocean, the mountains, the Northwest, and, of course, the city of San Francisco.

James will miss the faculty, staff and students at the University of Richmond, especially those students who have worked with him at the Circulation Desk and those who he taught in Legal Research. He will also miss his wonderful colleagues at the Library. James would like to thank the students, staff, faculty and alumni of the law school who have made this such a fantastic place to work.

Winter Closings

With winter upon us, it is important to know where to find out if the Law School is closed due to inclement weather. Your best bet is to call the University's Emergency Hotline at 289-8760. This is your conclusive and official source for closing information. Law students can also call the Law School's Dean's Office at 289-8740 for updates specific to the Law School.

If you can not make it to a telephone, you can listen to radio stations WRVA (AM 1140), WRVQ (FM 94.5) or WCVE (FM 88.9) or watch television stations WTVR (CBS) - Channel 6, WRIC (ABC) - Channel 8, WWBT (NBC) - Channel 12, or WCVE/ WCVW (PBS) - Channel 23.
Hein-On-Line: Law Journals At Your Fingertips

Hein-On-Line is a subscription based site that provides access online to the full text of an ever increasing number of law journals. This list will soon include the *University of Richmond Law Review*.

Coverage on Hein typically extends to the very earliest volumes of the journal. This stands in contrast to Westlaw and Lexis where usually only the more recent volumes are provided. Accordingly, if you find that Westlaw or Lexis does not have the article you are looking for, your best bet is to try Hein-on-Line.

Examples of leading law reviews that can be found on Hein-On-Line include:

- Boston College Law Review
- University of Chicago Law Review
- Duke Law Journal
- Georgetown Law Journal
- Michigan Law Review
- Northwestern University Law Review
- Southern California Law Review
- Vanderbilt Law Review
- Washington University Law Quarterly
- Boston University Law Review
- Columbia Law Review
- Emory Law Journal
- Harvard Law Review
- Minnesota Law Review
- Notre Dame Law Review
- Stanford Law Review
- Virginia Law Review
- Wisconsin Law Review
- California Law Review
- Cornell Law Review
- George Washington Law Review
- Iowa Law Review
- New York University Law Review
- Univ. of Pennsylvania Law Review
- Texas Law Review
- Washington Law Review
- Yale Law Journal

Note: This is not an exhaustive list. There are many other law journals also available on Hein, and more are being added.

Accessing Hein-On-Line

Users in the Law Library:

The University of Richmond Law Library makes Hein-On-Line available to users at the Library portal which can be found at the many computer kiosks located throughout the library. From the portal page, users can access Hein by clicking on "Journals and Indexes" on the left hand menu and then "Hein Online".

Users connected to the UR campus network:
1) The Main Library’s page at http://oncampus.richmond.edu/is/library/social_sciences/databases.html includes a link to Hein-On-Line. This is the recommended way to access the site since you can avoid unnecessary frames.
2) Go directly to the site at http://heinonline.org/HeinOnline/start.pl.

Using Hein-On-Line

Once at the Hein site, users can search for articles in several different formats. The left hand side of the screen contains a "Citation Navigator." If you know the citation, you can enter the volume and page number in the boxes provided and then select the journal name from the drop down menu.

Other ways to search include: journal name, author, title, author/title combined, or full text.

Journal coverage can be ascertained by scrolling down the alphabetical listing of journals when in the default "Browse journal title" mode. Note that the date/volume coverage for each title is listed following the journal name.

Hein-On-Line provides the researcher with printable copies of the articles. The user can decide whether the article displays exactly as it did in the print journals or in plain text. Articles can be printed by clicking on the print button near the top of the page. Users navigate the article with the specialized navigational tools near the top of the page.
Law At the Movies: *Catch Me If You Can*

by Gail Zwirner

I highly recommend seeing *Catch Me If You Can*, based on a true story of a teenage con man, Frank Abagnale Jr., who successfully forged checks worth over $2 million before his 21st birthday and his apprehension by the FBI in France. Leonardo DiCaprio was suitably cast in this role, where -- as a teenager remember -- he impersonated an airline pilot, a doctor, and an attorney. With all the shenanigans of bank manipulations, quality printing reproductions of checks and professional licenses, you would think the caper took place recently, but in fact, the story unfolded over five years in the 1960s -- before personal computers, the internet, and computer hackers.

In an interview last year, the real Abagnale, now a multi-millionaire consultant, attributes much of his success to these deceptions to his genes. He was apparently very tall and broad-shouldered, even as a young teen, making him look more "like the president of a bank rather than someone who, without the slightest compunction, once robbed financial institutions blind." Quite frankly, to sustain five years of this level of deceit had to take more than looks. He was really quite brilliant.

There is good and bad news about the other roles. Tom Hanks, who plays the FBI agent, was disappointing. I couldn't get beyond his fake New England accent. On the other hand, Frank Abagnale, Sr., played by Christopher Walken, was a gem. Despite being snubbed by the Golden Globes, I do hope he gets Oscar recognition for the role.

The legal scene showed an inexperienced but effective attorney, who at a preliminary hearing, was criticized only for providing *too much* information. The legal connection did provide a good line in the script in the scene where the FBI interviewed him after his capture. The Hanks character asked: "Frank, just how did you pass the bar exam?" Abagnale's answer was something like, "Oh, I just looked at an exam prep book for a couple of hours."

Abagnale spent only four years in jail. Tried as a juvenile, he was sentenced to 12 years, but the FBI saw an opportunity for valuable consultations. So without compensation, he was released on parole and worked with the FBI to help catch other con men like him.

No doubt there were Hollywood embellishments in the movie, but the fact that it was based on a true story, makes *Catch Me If You Can* highly entertaining.